


REMARKS

Claims 9-44 have been added. Examination of the amended application is respectfully requested.

It is noted that this Amendment increases the total number of claims pending in the application to 44 , thus requiring an excess claim fee of \$ 216 for 24 additional claims in excess of 20. Also the total number of independent claims pending in the application is increased to 5, thus requiring excess independent claim fee of \$ 84 for 2 additional independent claims in excess of 3. A check \$ 300 in payment of the fee for the above-mentioned extra claims and extra independent claims is enclosed. If the check is missing or made out for an insufficient amount, please charge any deficiency to our deposit account, no. 18-0002, and notify us accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,

April 23, 2002
Date


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